or send out of India, or import or bring into India, any foreign currency.

(b) The details of foreign currency received in the foreign parcel post office at Ahmedabad since 1st January, 2000 for which Reserve Bank has given "no objection" are given below:

Sr. NO.	Name of the currency received	Name of the country from which parcel received	Amount of currency
1.	GBP	U.K.	300
2.	GBP	U.K.	165
3.	GBP	U.K.	2000
4.	USD	USA	161
5.	GBP	U.K.	100
6.	GBP	U.K.	50

(c) to (e) RBI has advised Custom authorities in October 2001, to clear import of Indian and foreign currency received by post provided the value does not exceed Rs. 5000/-. Beyond this amount beneficiaries are required to seek NOC from RBI. Small amounts of foreign currency received by post and intercepted by customs are referred to RBI for NOC. These are cases where the sender by ignorance sends the foreign currency through postal route. The applicants are issued NOC to receive the foreign currency and deposit the same with an authorized dealer within 7 days.

Non-availing of Annual Plan

1697. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Ministries including the Ministries of Commerce, Tourism, Heavy Industries, Planning, Power and External Affairs have not been able to avail of the Annual Plan provision fully in the first seven months of this fiscal year;

(b) whether the overall expenditure of Government has been only

42 per cent of the budgeted expenditure from April to October, 2001; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the effect it has on the development of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Plan Expenditure from April to October, 2001 is 46 per cent of Budget Estimates 2001-2002 which is the same as in the corresponding period last year.

Rise in price of Gold

1698. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that price of Gold is increasing at a rapid rate;

(b) what will be the effect on our economy due to this hike;

(c) the reasons for this sudden increase; and

(d) the steps taken to contain the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The price of gold (Delhi Standard) increased from Rs. 426 per gram since end March 2001 to Rs. 500 per gram in the beginning of March 2002, mainly due to an increase in the international price of gold. The increase might have some marginal impact on the cost of gold ornaments in the domestic market.